# THE DOCTOR,

## A Medical and Philosophical Penny Magazine.

"A WISE PHYSICIAN, SKILL'D OUR WOUNDS TO HEAL,
IS MORE THAN ARMIES TO THE PUBLIC WEAL."—*Pope's Homer.*

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### COCHLEARIA ARMORACIA. HORSE-RADISH.

CLASS, TETRADYNAMIA. ORDER, SILICULOSA.

THE root is perennial, long, tapering, white; the stalk is round, erect, branched, smooth, and rises two or three feet in height; the radical leaves are very large, lance-shaped, scolloped at the edges, and stand on strong foot-stalks; those of the stalk are much smaller, narrow, and often divided at the edges; the flowers are white, numerous, and terminate the branches in thick clusters; the calyx is composed of four leaves, which are egg-shaped, concave, opening, and deciduous; the corolla consists of four inversely egg-shaped petals, which expand in oppo-

site directions, and form a cross; they are twice the size of the calyx, and are inserted by narrow claws; the filaments are six, tapering, the two opposite ones shorter than the other four, and all furnished with blunt compressed antheræ; the germen is heart-shaped, supporting a simple style, which is short, permanent, and furnished with an obtuse stigma; the capsule is heart-shaped, turgid, slightly notched at the end, and furnished with the style; it is divided into two cells, each containing about four seeds. It is found growing wild in many parts of England, particularly about rubbish and the sides of ditches; but it is commonly cultivated in gardens, and flowers in May.

The root of this plant, which has long been received into the Materia Medica, is also well known at our tables; it affects the organs both of taste and smell with a quick penetrating pungency; nevertheless it contains in certain vessels a sweet juice, which sometimes exudes in little drops on the surface. Its pungent matter is of a very volatile kind, being totally dissipated in drying, and carried off in evaporation or distillation by water and rectified spirit; as the pungency exhales, the sweet matter of the root becomes more sensible, though this also is in a great measure dissipated or destroyed. It impregnates both water and spirit, by infusion or distillation, very richly with its active matter; in distillation with water it yields a small quantity of essential oil, exceedingly penetrating and pungent.

Dr. Cullen having, in our opinion, mentioned everything necessary to be known respecting the medicinal virtues of horse-radish, we shall here transcribe all that this ingenious Professor has written on this subject.

"The root of this only is employed, and it affords one of the most acrid substances of this order (siliquosa), and therefore proves a powerful stimulant, whether externally or internally employed. Externally it readily inflames the skin, and proves a rubefacient that may be employed with advantage in palsy and rheumatism, and if its application be long continued, it produces blisters. Taken internally, I have said in what manner its stimulant power in the fauces may be managed for the cure of hoarseness.* Received into the stomach, it stimulates this, and promotes digestion, and therefore is properly employed as a condiment with our animal food. If it be infused in water, and a portion of this infusion be taken with a large draught of warm water, it readily proves emetic, and may either be employed by itself to excite vomiting, or to assist the operation of other emetics. Infused in water, and taken into the stomach, it proves stimulant to the nervous system, and is thereby useful in palsy; and if employed in large quantity, it proves heating to the whole body; and hereby it proves often useful in chronic rheumatism, whether arising from scurvy or other causes. Burgius has given us a particular method of exhibiting this root, which is by cutting it down, without bruising, into very small pieces, and these, if swallowed without chewing, may be taken down in large quantity, to that of a tablespoonful, and the author alleges, that in this way, taken every morning for a month together, this root has been extremely useful in arthritic cases; which however I suppose to have been of the rheumatic kind. It would seem that in this manner employed, analogous to the use of unbruised mustard-seed, it gives out in the stomach its subtle volatile parts, that stimulate considerably without inflaming. The matter of horse-radish, like the same matter of the other siliquose plants, carried into the bloodvessels, passes readily into the kidneys, and proves a powerful diuretic, and is therefore useful in dropsy; and we need not say, that in this manner, by promoting both urine and perspiration, it has been long known as one of the most powerful antiscorbutics."

* The Doctor here refers to the article of Erysimum, the juice of which, mixed with an equal part of honey or sugar, is strongly recommended for the cure of hoarseness, which proceeds from an interrupted secretion of mucus, and which stimulants of the acrid kind are found most efficacious in restoring. When the Erysimum was not at hand, the Doctor substituted a sirup of horse-radish. He says, "I have found that one drachm of the root, fresh scraped down, was enough for four ounces of water, to be infused in a close vessel for two hours, and made into a sirup, with double its weight of sugar. A teaspoonful or two of this sirup, swallowed leisurely, or at least repeated two or three times, we have found often very suddenly effectual in relieving hoarseness."

## ROOT OF SARSAPARILLA

Is a native of Virginia and South America. It has no smell, but a bitter and somewhat acrid mucilaginous taste. Its virtues are most effectually extracted by boiling water. *Genuine* sarsaparilla is covered by a brown or reddish bark, with a central woody portion, soft, white, and sometimes like starch. This part is useless, the virtues residing in the bitter principle of the bark, and the more it inclines to a red colour, it is the richer and more powerful. The gray and dirty-brown sorts are not good. The best sort comes from Jamaica and the Brazils, called *Lisbon* sarsaparilla; the worst from Honduras and Vera Cruz.

It is frequently adulterated with rotten and decayed pieces or twigs of other roots. This may often be the cause of its failure. Its medicinal virtues are extolled by many as an alterative, diaphoretic, diuretic, and tonic, while others esteem it to be feeble, or inert. There can be no doubt, however, we think, that it is exceedingly useful in the atonic disorders caused by mercury, particularly in disorders of the skin (*Erythema Mercuriale*, see a former Number), the throat, and the bones and joints. It has no power over *genuine* syphilis. The late Mr. Abernethy used it extensively in St. Bartholomew's Hospital for that species of spurious syphilis termed "Pseudo Syphilitic Affection" with most decided advantage. The Editor likewise very frequently prescribes the decoction of this root in his private practice with the most salutary effects. In rheumatism, and some of the milder forms of scrofula, he has often found it to be beneficial. The dose in powder is from a scruple to an ounce per day, in three doses, in form of electuary, prepared with honey, or conserve of roses, or half a pint of the decoction twice daily.

### Galvanic Electricity in Paralysis.

M. Marianini has indicated a means of applying galvanic electricity to the cure of paralysis and paraplegia. A current should be passed across the limb, during many days, or even weeks; not a continuous current, but rapid successive discharges of a battery, at first weak, but gradually augmented. He states that by this method he obtained many cures.—*Dub. Journ.*

## PERNIO; OR, CHILBLAIN.

As the season is fast approaching at which this disorder becomes prevalent, we will again make a few observations upon this local affection; it has been treated on before, but as the additional subscribers to the present volume are numerous, it will for their information be beneficial to again revert to the subject.

Chilblains are painful inflammatory swellings, of a deep purple or leaden colour, to which the fingers, toes, heels, and other extreme parts of the body, are subject on being exposed to a severe degree of cold. The pain is not constant, but rather pungent and shooting at particular times, and an insupportable itching attends. In some instances the skin remains entire, but in others it breaks and discharges a thin fluid. When the degree of cold has been very great, or the application long-continued, the parts affected are apt to mortify and slough off, leaving a foul, ill-conditioned sore behind.

Children and old people are more liable to be troubled with chilblains than those of a middle age; and such as are of a scrofulous habit are remarked to suffer severely from them.

The best mode of preventing these affections is to avoid with much care any exposure to wet or cold: wherefore those who are subject to them should be cautious, on the approach of winter, to cover the parts which are apt to be injured with woollen gloves and stockings, and not expose the hands or feet too precipitately, when cold, to a considerable degree of heat.

In common cases of chilblains, as soon as any part is perceived to be affected, it will be proper to rub it well with warm spirits of rosemary, to which a small addition of oil of turpentine has been made; after which we may apply pieces of soft linen, moistened with camphorated spirits, or any of the embrocations here advised, and they are to be kept constantly wet.

When the swellings break and discharge a thin matter, or ulcerate, poultices and emollient ointments may be applied for a few days, but as these are apt to induce fungous excrescences over the sores which it will be difficult afterwards to remove, they should not be persisted in long. The occasional application of caustic to the edges, and dressing the sore daily with the unguentum hydrargyri nitratis, will effectually prevent any luxuriancy of granulation. Should this be found of too escharotic a nature, its strength may easily be reduced, by a small addition of the unguentum cetacei.

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## VEGETABLE POISONS.

(*Continued from p.* 60.)

A very singular case is related in the French Dictionary of Medical Sciences, among the *Cas Rares*, of a man, 60 years of age, who swallowed a piece of meat which stuck in the œsophagus, near the lower end of the tube. Alarming symptoms followed quickly, but the surgeon could not displace the foreign body. He opened the median vein in the arm, and injected four grains of tartarized antimony dissolved in an ounce of water. About a minute afterwards, the patient vomited up the piece of meat. Query, might not the same plan be adopted with advantage in cases of poison from opium and other powerful narcotics, where the patient is deprived of sensibility or the power of swallowing, or where there prevails very great torpidity of the stomach? For the operation in question, a syringe of peculiar construction will be requisite, in order to avoid throwing air into the bloodvessels.

To counteract the effects of the poison, the patient should be made to drink, after vomiting has been excited, but not before, if possible, of liquors strongly acidulated with the juice of lemons, vinegar, or sulphuric acid, giving the preference however to the former. These fluids should be given in small doses, and be repeated every ten minutes.

Contrary to the generally received opinion that vinegar and the vegetable acids are antidotes to the poison of opium, a French writer concludes, from the results of a series of experiments upon dogs, that these acids aggravate the symptoms of poisoning by opium, by dissolving the greater quantity, and thereby increasing its narcotic power, when the poison has not been rejected by vomiting; but he found if the poison has been vomited, that then vinegar and vegetable acids possess the property of diminishing the symptoms of the poison, and even altogether overcoming them. No experiments, however, have been made upon the human body of the like nature, to prove whether a similar result would ensue. It will, however, be most advisable to excite vomiting by a powerful emetic previous to a use of acids.

In urgent cases of persons of a robust and plethoric habit suffering under the influence of opium, opening the jugular vein, in preference to any other, will be advisable, as by this means only can the dangerous accumulation of blood in the brain be relieved. Bleeding unnecessarily might, however, not only retard, but endanger the recovery of the patient.

For the purpose of rousing the system from a state of torpor, particularly in cases where an immoderate dose of laudanum or opium has been taken, the patient is to be kept in constant motion on his legs, if capable of standing; but if not, by frequent shaking and moving his body. We may at the same time assiduously rub different parts of it with warm salt and other stimulating applications. If these means fail, the cold affusion of water, copiously employed, and directed chiefly on the head, neck, and chest, may be attended with better success; in addition to which means it has been recommended to stimulate different parts of the body with the down of the dolichos pruriens, or cowhage. By these, the patient will often be roused from a state of perfect stupor, so as to enable his medical attendant to give him a strong emetic, and other medicines which may be deemed necessary to counteract the effects of the poison.

To assist in producing such a degree of irritation as shall counteract the soporific quality of the poison, a large blister may be put between the shoulders, and sinapisms to the palms of the hands and soles of the feet. The nostrils may be irritated from time to time with a feather dipped in the liquor vol. cornu cervi.

With the like view of obviating the torpor of the stomach, and stimulating the whole system, it would appear advisable to give considerable doses of ammonia. Indeed, we are informed by a modern writer, that he has observed where any of the narcotic poisons, particularly opium or hyoscyamus, has been swallowed, and an alarming stupor has continued for many hours, notwithstanding every effort made by the by-standers, a spoonful of a strong solution of ammonia has awakened the patient and enabled him by words to express the bene-

fit he has received from it; and by a repetition of the medicine, as the stupor returns, the sensibility and irritability have been gradually restored.

There can be no doubt but that strong stimuli will be necessary as soon as the effects of the one constituting the disease are observed to be subsiding, and the system discovers marks of sinking. In this state we ought, therefore, not only to employ frictions externally with salt, as has been directed, and excite the action of the intestinal tube by irritating clysters, but we should give ammonia with as much brandy as can be got down into the stomach, even by a teaspoonful at a time.

(*To be continued.*)

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF A DIAMOND.

Diamond is always crystallized, but sometimes so imperfectly, that at first sight it might appear amorphous. The figure of the diamond when perfect is an eight-sided prism. There are also cubical, flat, and round diamonds. It is the oriental diamond which crystallizes into octohedra, and exhibits all the varieties of this primitive figure. The diamond of Brazil crystallizes into dodecahedra.

The texture of the diamond is lamellated, for it may be split or cleft with an instrument of well-tempered steel, by a swift blow in a particular direction. There are, however, some diamonds which do not appear to be formed of *lamina*, but of twisted and interwoven fibres, like those of knots in wood. These exceed the others greatly in hardness; they cannot be cut or polished, and are therefore called by the lapidaries diamonds of nature.

The diamond is one of the hardest bodies known. It resists the most highly tempered steel file, which circumstance renders it necessary to attack it with diamond powder. It takes an exquisite and lasting polish. It has a great refractive power; and hence its lustre, when cut into the form of a regular solid, is uncommonly great. It sparkles with all the splendour of a rainbow, principally when its effects are multiplied by cutting, and the number of the polished facets with which it is enclosed. The usual colour of diamonds is a light gray, often inclining to yellow, at times lemon colour, violet, or black, seldomer rose-red, and still more rarely green or blue, but more frequently pale-brown. The purest diamonds are perfectly transparent. The colourless diamond has a specific gravity which is in proportion to that of water as 3.512 to 1.000, according to Brisson. This varies, however, considerably. When rubbed, it becomes *positively* electric, even before it has been cut by the lapidary

Diamond is not acted upon by acids, or by any chemical agent, oxygen excepted; and this requires a very great increase of temperature to produce any effect. It then burns with flame and decrepitation.

The diamond burns by a strong heat, even in common air, with a sensible flame, like other combustible bodies, attracting oxygen, and becoming wholly converted into carbonic acid gas during that process.

It combines with iron by fusion, and converts it like common charcoal into steel; but diamond requires much more oxygen to burn in than common charcoal does, and even then it consumes but slowly, and ceases to burn the instant its temperature is lowered.

It is considered by modern chemists as pure crystallized carbon.

(*To be continued.*)

## EXTRAORDINARY EFFECTS OF A FALL IN THE CURE OF CONSUMPTION.

[*By* Dr. De Simoni.]

The inhabitants of the Canaries who come to reside at Mozambique are extremely meagre. Amongst them was a soldier affected with a cough of long standing, sometimes dry, at other times accompanied with purulent expectoration tinged with blood. This patient had a slow fever, which became increased at noon and at night; his skin was dry, moistened only by the night sweats, and a burning heat peculiar to certain tuberculous individuals appeared to indicate the existence of pulmonary consumption. The voice was nearly extinct, and hoarse, apparently coming from the chest. He had likewise diarrhœa (purging), which stopt at intervals, confirmed the fatal diagnoses, and declared sufficiently the incurable nature of the disease. It happened, however, that being put under a treatment purely palliative, he gained some little strength, and asked to leave the hospital in spite of the representations of the physician. It was not without considerable difficulty that he regained his abode and resumed his service. One day being placed as sentinel on an elevated part of the fortress, his strength failed him all of a sudden, and he fell with his gun in a passage covered with stones; no fracture resulted from this fall, but merely severe bruises in different parts of the chest. Soon after spitting of blood came on, and the bleedings from the nose were so considerable as to cause alarm for his life. Baths were prescribed, with the addition of camphorated spirit; and the application of some leeches, with nutritive diet. Under this treatment all the symptoms of phthisis disappeared gradually; the patient recovered flesh, and was perfectly restored to health.

## A CHILD POISONED OWING TO THE IGNORANCE IN *CHEMISTRY* OF A MEDICAL MAN.

A Subscriber to *The Doctor* in *Hobart Town* occasionally forwarding to us the *Hobart Courier*, we found in one of the numbers, that a physician, "Dr. H- —, being sent for to a boy eight years old, who appeared in the doctor's opinion to be labouring under a mesenteric disease, prescribed small doses of calomel thrice daily, and a medicine containing *muriatic acid*, likewise to be taken thrice daily.—After a few doses of each had been given, the child manifested considerable pain in the stomach and bowels. The doctor advised various applications to the belly but without effect, and the child died on the evening of the second day; the circumstance we learn is to undergo an investigation." Now this mystery is easily solved. *Calomel* is a *sub*muriate of mercury: *sub*, under, meaning, not *fully* saturated with muriatic acid, but administering muriatic acid, jointly with calomel, a union takes place forming (what was formerly called) oxymuriat of mercury, but now *chloride* of mercury. This new compound formed in the stomach of the little sufferer, in plain language, corrosive sublimate, or *sublimate of mercury*. The first part of the treatment was good, but the exhibition of muriatic acid at or near the same time, showed the most consummate ignorance we almost ever heard of.—Ed.

CODE GOURMAND, A COMPLETE MANUAL OF GASTRONOMY; *Containing the Laws, Rules, Applications, and Examples of the Art of Good Living in Paris.* From which we make the following extract.

"The author sorely laments the disappearance, even from the best tables, of some once celebrated and exquisite dishes; such as the róti à l'impératrice.

"To make this inimitable dish (says he), take out the stone from an olive, and fill the cavity with shredded anchovy. The olive so stuffed must be put into a lark, the lark into a quail, the quail into a partridge, the partridge into a pheasant, the pheasant into a turkey, and the turkey into a sucking pig. Let a brisk fire amalgamate well the juices of these various meats, and serve it up. But hold, rash man! touch it not with your knife; throw the whole out of the window, save the olive, in which the quintessence of the whole of the surrounding materials is concentrated. Swallow the olive; but have near you a bottle of ether, for it is probable you may faint with pleasure. Some epicures reject even the olive, eating only the shredded anchovy."

## FUNGUS HÆMATODES, OR MEDULLARY SARCOMA.

A DISEASE has of late attracted the attention of some surgeons, and has been pretty generally classed and treated as a cancerous affection, in whatever parts of the body it may have been known to occur; but although in its history it has some analogy to cancer, still its symptoms and appearances on dissection are so different from those of cancer, that it cannot, we think, with propriety be considered as a disease arising from the same morbid alteration of structure. By some writers it has been named the fungus hæmatodes; by others, the medullary sarcoma; and others, again, have given it the appellation of spongoid inflammation. Mr. Burns, who has adopted the latter name, mentions it as appearing only in the superior and inferior extremities; but this probably from his not having met with any other cases of it; whereas the other writers describe it as occurring likewise in the ball of the eye, liver, lungs, uterus, female breasts, and other parts.

A great difference of opinion seems to exist between the English and French pathologists respecting the precise application of fungus hæmatodes. M. Roux asserts, that most of the cases pointed out to him, when in London, as specimens of this affection, were merely a variety of carcinoma, the soft, fungous cancer; not preceded, like the more common form, by a state of scirrhus. He denies the existence of what we call fungus hæmatodes as a specific or peculiar malady.

The progress of fungus hæmatodes, as well as of cancer, is generally slow. When ulceration has taken place, neither of them discharge a purulent matter, but a thin fetid ichor; and occasionally they bleed profusely. They both sometimes assume a fungous appearance, and during their progress contaminate the absorbent glands which are in the course of circulation; they are also equally destructive, communicating the disease to the neighbouring parts, whatever the nature of these may be, whether cellular membrane, skin, muscle, periosteum, or bone.

Fungus hæmatodes is generally a disease of early life; whereas, cancer is usually confined to those who are advanced in years. Cancer, moreover, seems to be confined to a very few organs of the body, and to a few textures; whereas fungus hæmatodes has been detected in parts where no true scirrhous structure has been ever met with.

On dissection, fungus hæmatodes presents a very different series of phenomena from the scirrhous tumour. When it appears on the external parts of the body, and has not yet acquired a considerable bulk, instead of being hard and unyielding, it is soft and elastic, and has a tolerably equal surface. Its form, when removed from the body, is accurately circumscribed, having generally a distinct covering of condensed cellular membrane. In place of the hard, fibrous-looking substance (the principal component part of scirrhous tumours), the morbid growth in fungus hæmatodes consists of a soft, pulpy matter, which mixes readily with water, and is somewhat hardened by acids, and by being boiled in water. It has been compared to medullary matter in consistence and colour. When the skin or covering of fungus hæmatodes has been eroded in the progress of the disease, instead of the morbid growth being destroyed by ulceration, a fungus arises from it, and the tumour seems to increase more rapidly in bulk. If the fungus hæmatodes is not interrupted in its progress, both the original tumour, and the fungous mass growing from it attain a considerable size, and the fungus, which is of a dark-red or purple-coloured mass, of an irregular shape, and of a soft texture, is easily torn, and bleeds profusely when slightly pressed or otherwise injured.

A want of success has generally attended all efforts in the cure of fungus hæmatodes in whatever part of the body the disease has existed. One successful case, however, is related by Dr. Thomas. "The patient was a man of about forty years of age. The fungus had attained the size of a cauliflower, and at times bled profusely. It had been of some months' standing when I first saw it, was of a deep-red or purple colour, discharged a fetid, ichorous matter, and was seated in the left hypochondrium (left side of the body) The tumour and excrescence were removed by one or two applications of arsenic reduced to powder, and combined with sulphur and opium, and the wound healed up kindly in due time by the common and usual dressings. About a year after, the man was carried off, as I have since understood, by some complaint seemingly unconnected with his former disease."

Where the fungus has a narrow pedicle, and we are enabled to apply a ligature with tolerable ease, possibly it may be most advisable to resort to it in the first instance, taking care to make it only of such a tightness as not to cut the vessels, but merely impede their circulation. When the fungus, with the surrounding ligature, falls off, should any slight hemorrhage ensue, a saturated tincture of galls, or some other styptic, may be employed to suppress it. Should the surface show any disposition to renew the fungus, the part may be sprinkled with arsenic combined with opium, as before mentioned; which application may be renewed a second time after the slough is thrown off, if requisite.

It is related of the Emperor of China, that when he is in health his physicians receive a monthly salary, but the instant indisposition overtakes him, the salary is stopped until his recovery.

## MEMOIRS OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED MEDICAL MEN.

### Sir Richard Croft.

Sir R. Croft, the son of a poor baronet of ancient descent, was born on the 9th of January, 1762. After receiving an ordinary education at an academy at Derby, he was placed under the care of Mr. Chauner, a surgeon, at Burton-on-Trent; whence, after the expiration of the term of his apprenticeship, he removed to London. Having attended, for two or three seasons, several courses of lectures at the different hospitals, he went to Tutbury, in Staffordshire, where he became the partner of his former master, and succeeded to the whole of his business, on Mr. Chauner's returning to Burton-on-Trent. After remaining at Tutbury nearly five years, he settled for a short time at Oxford, in the expectation that Sir Charles Nourse was about to retire from business in that city, and would afford him an opportunity of succeeding to his practice. Being mistaken in this idea, he proceeded to London, and, a short time afterwards, married a daughter of Dr. Denman, to whom he had obtained a letter of introduction from his father-in-law's brother, Dr. Joseph Denman, while residing at Tutbury.

A few months subsequent to this event, he, at the recommendation of his father-in-law, went to Paris, to superintend the accouchment of the Duchess of Devonshire; his conduct on which occasion greatly increased his business on his return to London. From this time up to that of his attendance on the princess Charlotte, a period of nearly thirty years, he continued to increase in fame and fortune, till he was considered the first accoucheur in the metropolis. After the fatal termination of the princess's delivery, the obloquy which it gave rise to, and the disappointment it occasioned him, preyed upon his mind to such a degree, that, about three months subsequent to her death, after coming home from a labour of the same lingering kind, he, in a fit of temporary insanity, shot himself in his bed-room.

It was proved at the inquest held on his body, that, since the death of the princess Charlotte, he had never been entirely free from fits of melancholy and abstraction; and on Dr. Thackeray's asking after one of his patients, he replied, "That he would give five hundred guineas if it were over, rather than have to attend her." On the night of his suicide, he exclaimed to his servant, who complained of being unwell, "What is your agitation compared to mine?" and, a few days before, he struck his forehead with much violence, in the presence of Mr. Hollings, and abruptly said to him, "Good God! what will become of me?" His conduct, with reference to the princess was much censured at the time; but Dr. Bailey confirmed the propriety of it in every particular, and the royal family expressed their conviction of the same, and endeavoured to soothe his despair at the result. He was a man of fine feelings, of the most honourable principles, and the most generous disposition; and he was equally regretted by the friends to whom he had endeared himself by the quality of his heart, and the patients to whom he had become valuable from the solicitude and skill he had so successfully displayed in their behalf.

## EARLY STRUGGLES.

(*Continued from p.* 78.)

While indulging in thoughts like these, a glittering troop of soldiers passed by me, preceded by their band, playing a merry air. How the sounds jarred on the broken strings of my heart! And many a bright face, dressed in smiles of gaiety and happiness, thronged past, attracted by the music, little thinking of the wretchedness of him who was sitting by! I could not prevent the tears of anguish from gushing forth. I thought of Emily—of her delicate and interesting, but, to me, melancholy situation. I could not bear the thought of returning home, to encounter her affectionate looks—her meek and gentle resignation to her bitter fortunes. Why had I married her, without first having considered whether I could support her? Passionately fond of me, as I well knew she was, could she avoid frequently recurring to the days of our courtship, when I reiteratedly assured her of my certainty of professional success as soon as I could get settled in London? Where now were all the fair and flourishing scenes to which my childish enthusiasm had taught me to look forward? Would not the bitter contrast she was now experiencing, and seemed doomed long yet to experience, alienate from me a portion of her affections, and induce feelings of anger and contempt? Could I blame her for all this? If the goodly superstructure of my fortunes fell, was it not I that had loosened and destroyed the foundation?—Reflections like these were harassing and scourging me, when an elderly gentleman, evidently an invalid, tottered slowly to the bench where I was sitting, and sat down beside me. He seemed a man of wealth and consideration: for his servant, on whose arm he had been leaning, and who now stood behind the bench on which he was sitting, wore a very elegant livery. He was almost shaken to pieces by an asthmatic cough, and was besides suffering from another severe disorder, which need not be more particularly named. He looked at me once or twice, in a manner which seemed to say, that he would not take it rudely if I addressed him. I did so. "I am afraid, sir," I said, "you are in great pain from that cough?"—"Yes," he gasped faintly; "and I don't know how to get rid of it. I am an old man, you see, sir; and methinks my summons to the grave might have been less loud and painful." After a little pause, I ventured to ask him how long he had been subject to the cough which now harassed him. He said, More or less, for the last ten years; but that, latterly, it had increased, so much upon him, that he could not derive any benefit from medical advice. "I should think, sir, the more violent symptoms of your disorder might be mitigated," said I, and proceeded to question him minutely, but hesitatingly, as to the origin and progress of the complaints, which now afflicted him. He answered all my questions with civility; and, as I went on, seemed to be roused into something like curiosity and interest. I need not say more, than that I discovered he had not been in the hands of a skilful practitioner; and that I assured him very few and simple means would give him great relief from at least the more violent symptoms. He, of course, perceived I was in the medical profession; and after some apparent hesitation, evidently as to whether or not I should feel hurt, tendered me a guinea. I refused it promptly and decidedly, and assured him that he was quite welcome to the very trifling advice I had rendered him. At that moment, a young man of fashionable ap-

pearance walked up, and told him their carriage was waiting at the corner of the Stable-yard. This last gentleman, who seemed to be either the son or nephew of the old gentleman, eyed me, I thought, with a certain superciliousness, which was not lessened when the invalid told him I had given him some excellent advice, for which he could not prevail on me to receive a fee. "We are vastly obliged to you, sir; but are going home to the family physician," said the young man, haughtily; and, placing the invalid's arm in his, led him slowly away. He was addressed several times by the servants as "*Sir*" something, *Wilton* or *William*, I think; but I could not distinctly catch it, so that he was evidently a person of rank I had been addressing. How many there are, thought I, that, with a more plausible and insinuating address than mine is, would have contrived to get into the confidence of this gentleman, and become his medical attendant! How foolish was I not to give him my card when he proffered me a fee, and thus, in all probability, be sent for the next morning to pay a regular professional visit! and to what lucrative introductions might not that have led! A thousand times I cursed my diffidence—my sensitiveness as to professional etiquette—and my inability to seize the advantages occasionally offered by a fortunate conjuncture of circumstances. I was fitter, I thought, for La Trappe than the bustling world of business. I deserved my ill-fortune; and professional failure was the natural consequence of the *mauvaise honte* which has injured so many. As the day, however, was far advancing, I left the seat, and turned my steps towards my cheerless home.

(*To be continued.*)

## CASE OF MUTISM.

[*By Martin A. Evans, M.D., Galway.*]

A YOUNG man, named John King, whilst returning from a fair on a warm day, suddenly became deprived of the power of articulation. His father brought him to the Dispensary for advice; I proposed bleeding, fearing which he absconded, but in a few weeks recovered spontaneously.

## CONSEQUENCES OF LAZINESS.

An apprentice to a jeweller in an extensive way of business, always fell sick whenever a large order came in, so as to require a few hours extra work each day for the men and boys. After many of these tricks had been played, the master began to view the matter in its proper light, but having just previously made a change in his medical attendant, the new doctor was sent for, proving himself to be more honourable than the previous one. The following questions and answers took place:—Doctor. Where is your pain?—All over me, Sir.—Put out your tongue. (Red as a cherry.)—Pain in your head?—Dreadful, Sir.—Are you sick at the stomach?—Yes, Sir.—Appetite good?—O no, Sir.—The Doctor finding all to be right, conferred privately with the master, informing him that the boy was in sound health; and in order to punish him for thus skulking, the doctor told the boy that his disorder was one of a most desperate nature, requiring active measures for its cure. An emetic, a blister, violent purgatives, and a diet bordering on *starvation*, was pursued. On the following morning however by six o'clock the boy was at his bench, and never feigned sickness afterwards.

## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"W. Wilson P." is welcome for the cure. The medicine he has taken will not "impare" his "constitution." To work off "that disgusting," &c., take two of *The Doctor's Stomach Pills* every night. Low diet is not required.

"An Imprudent Young Man." Continue as before; our promise shall be verified. Write again.

"Sidney Smith" is referred to No. 128 of this Magazine, in which will be found an instructive article on "Baldness" with receipts for the same.

"Ignoramus." The Editor has no knowledge of the subject on which this correspondent seeks for information.

"Jewkesbury" must continue *The Doctor's Pectoral Pills*, and in addition two of *The Doctor's Pro-bilious Pills* every night. Write again.

"An Enquirer." Continue the application to the head. We will take all responsibility on ourselves relative to any ill effects it may produce. The remedy in question but seldom fails.

"S. C." The *sensations* which this correspondent experiences all arise from a disordered condition of the nervous system. Take *The Doctor's Balsam of Lupuline* as before recommended. The same medicine is in an equal degree applicable to the "female" alluded to. Write again.

"Gulielmus" will never get rid of his disorder unless his bowels are brought into a regular state of action. To effect this desirable object take two or three of *The Doctor's Stomach Pills* every night. Wash your head in cold water every night and morning. Hair cut close. Feet in warm water every other night, with a handful or two of mustard, and the same quantity of salt combined with it. Write again.

"W. E., Bethnal-green." Have recourse to *The Doctor's Pro-bilious Pills*, of which take two every night. "Son" must have recourse to *The Doctor's Stomach Pills*; two or three at bed-time every other night. *Hot suppers* are objected to. His feet to be kept very warm and head cool. Write again.

"H. W. Halstead." ℞ Tinct. Ferri Muriat. ʒj. Infus. Gent. Comp. ℥viss. Tinct. Cascarillæ ʒvj. M. Sumat cochl. iij larg. bis quotidie. Regulate your bowels by taking two of *The Doctor's Stomach Pills* every night. Write again.

"Manchester's" case may prove dangerous unless great care be taken. Immediately commence with *The Doctor's Pectoral Pills*, take two three times daily, and regulate the bowels by taking two of *The Doctor's Stomach Pills* every night going to bed. Avoid malt liquor and spirits of all kinds. Write again.

"T. G. Cooper." This case appears one of a complicated nature, an interview therefore is required, call at the Office as early as convenient.

"J. Friendly." Continue a short time longer, but the pills ought to be taken *every* night. Smoking in moderation will not injure this patient. Very shortly a list of all our country agents will be published. Write again.

"Philomath" had better continue, as per private letter, a short time longer.

"J. T. W., aged 30 years." *The Doctor's Stomach Pills*, if taken regularly, will soon remove the disorder in question. Two are recommended to be taken every night.

"S. A. Richard Lee" is recommended to have an *associate* forthwith, and cultivate that anticipation which may be realized in about two years.

"J. M." R. Ung. Tutiæ ℥ss. Smear the eyelids every night with this ointment, and take a three-grain blue-pill going to bed nightly. Write again in a fortnight.

"P. K., a Journeyman Mechanic," is labouring under some of the consequences of the original disorder, but he has nothing to fear. R. Infus. Gent. Comp. ℥vij. Acid. Nitrosi ℥ss. Tinct. Cascarillæ ℥ss. Syr. Cort. Aurant. ʒiij. M. Sumat cochl. ij larg. bis quotidie. And two of *The Doctor's Stomach Pills* every night. Write again in three weeks.

"An Amateur Chemist." Essence of Lemon is best prepared by washing and brushing some lemons clean, then rubbing the rind with pieces of lump-sugar till all the yellow part be grated off. The surface of the sugar impregnated with the oil is then to be scraped off, pressed down, and kept well stopped up. Or, take eight ounces of Alcohol, highly rectified; six ounces of the *outer* peel of lemon, and macerate for seven days. Essence of lemon and lemon-juice are in no way analogous.

"Ellen Ramo Samee." R. Acid. Pyroligneus ℥i. Aquæ Distillati ℥iij. M. Ft. lotio. Nocte et mane applicand. Have the hair shaved off around the part affected. Write again.

"H. T. R." shall be made well. The affection of the eyes arises out of an impaired constitution; bathe them night and morning with a warm decoction of poppy-heads, and take two of *The Doctor's Stomach Pills* every night. He would be justified in altering his condition in life.

"Grateful Admirer and Subscriber." To the first question; about half an hour. 2nd. A pint. 3rd. Mottled soap. 4th. Mr. Maw, Aldermanbury. Continue to take *The Doctor's Stomach Pills*.

"R. S. R. Corredor, Bath." For ring-worm:—℞ Acid. Pyroligneus ʒj. Aquæ Distillati ʒiij. M. Ft. lotio. Nocte et mane applicand. Lunar caustic is the best dye for the hair, in the proportion of one scruple to one ounce of distilled water. An agent in Bath shall be immediately sought after.

"R. S. J." is not only labouring under indigestion, but likewise a sluggish action of the liver. Hence the pain on the right side. For the former continue *The Doctor's Stomach Pills*, and for the latter two of *The Doctor's Pro-bilious Pills* every night. Write again in a fortnight.

"D. D. R." ℞ Pulv. Gallæ ʒss. Ung. Flor. Samb. ʒj. M. Ft. Ung.; bis vel ter die applicand. Take not any strong aperient medicine. *The Doctor's Stomach Pills* will be found the most mild but effective aperient that can be taken. Write again if necessary.

"D. D." is informed that to give in detail the composition of the *Emp. Calidum* (warm plaster), would exceed the limits of this part of our Magazine. For shortness' sake it is composed of Emp. Resinæ et Emp. Lyttæ, one part in seven. M. S. A. Show this to your druggist. Continue *The Doctor's Pectoral Pills*. Write again.

"Dick Wilson's" eyelids will soon be put to rights by drawing over them, when closed, a camel's-hair pencil to which has been applied a small quantity of the following ointment:—℞ Hyd. Precipitat. Rub. ʒj. in Pulv. subtilissime. Ung. Cetacei ʒj. M.

"A. B., Titchfield-street." Continue as before.

"Le Neveu d'un Médecin décédé" is referred to the answer given to "Matthew Brown."

"H. H. H." ℞ Tinct. Ferri Muriat. ʒiss. Infus. Gent. Comp. ʒviss. Tinct. Cascarillæ ʒvj. M. Sumat cochl. iij larg. bis quotidie. Regulate your bowels by taking two of *The Doctor's Stomach Pills* every night.

"P. C. M., Clerkenwell," ought if *possible* to see the Editor, for consumption is much to be apprehended. Immediately have recourse to *The Doctor's Pectoral or Cough Pills*, take two three times a day. Write again by all means.

"Julietto Xerxes." Apply two poultices daily composed of Linseed Meal and Decoction of Poppy-heads. If not better in a week, call at the Office, when the Editor is in attendance, and the ulcer shall be inspected.

"Non Medicus." There are no means by which a NON-medical man can ascertain "whether his lungs be diseased or not;" but if this Correspondent will call on the Editor at his Chambers, his chest shall be examined.

"A. Z., near Hackney. ℞ Infus. Gent. Comp. ʒviss. Acid. Sulph. Diluti ʒj. Tinct. Card. Comp. ʒvj. Syr. Cort. Aurant. ʒiij. M. Sumat cochl. iij larg. bis quotidie, and continue *The Doctor's Stomach Pills*. Write again.

"B. Wm." Continue the *arsenical solution* a few weeks longer, but in gradually increased doses; immediately, however, that any sensation of *heat* in the throat or stomach is experienced, go back to one of the lesser doses.

"A Poor Sufferer." Continue the pills, and take one teaspoonful of the following in water twice daily:—℞ Vin. Sem. Colchici ʒss. Tinct. Hyosciami ʒij, Spt. Æther. Nitros. iij. Tinct. Digitalis ʒj. M. Write again.

"E. B—g." See No. 127. Article on *Acne; or Blotched Face*.

"T. G. Dawbeny." ℞ Bals. Copaibæ, Tinct. Benzoin, āā. ʒvi. Tinct. Lyttæ ʒiij. M. Sumat cochl. j parvi ter die in aquâ. Cold water as a local application.

"James W. S—s." *The Doctor's Pro-bilious Pills* are in no degree aperient, their action being exclusively confined to the functions of the liver. Continue them by all means, and in order that two evacuations from the bowels may be ensured daily, take two of *The Doctor's Stomach Pills* nightly with the *Pro-bilious*. A perfect cure is promised.

"Matthew Brown." The best article that can possibly be used to plug teeth with, is leaf gold. There is a cement which some dentists use of which metallic bismuth is the basis; but non-medical men could not use it without proper instructions.

"W. H. J." will no doubt be well before this answer reaches him; but if not, continue as before a few days longer. On the first appearance of the same disease, take the following:—℞ Bals. Copaibæ, Spt. Terebinth, Spt. Æther. Nitrosi, āā. ʒss. M. Sumat cochl. j parv. ter quotidie.

"Z. J. B." must continue a short time longer as before recommended, the trial is not sufficiently long.

"John Frazer." We are alarmed about his wife, consumption is feared. She is strongly recommended to call on the Editor at his Chambers, No. 4, Broadway, for the purpose of having the chest properly examined. "J. F." ought to accompany his wife.

"Mc." For Sister. ℞ Strychnine gr. ¼. Pulv. Acaciæ ʒj. Conf. Rosæ q. s. ut fiat mass. divid. in pilul. xxxvj. Sumat j ter quotidie. A flesh-brush to the legs and thighs every night and morning; bowels to be regulated by taking two of *The Doctor's Stomach Pills* every night. For Mother, *The Doctor's Pro-bilious Pills* are recommended. We know of no remedy for the cure of consumption, when once established. Write again in a few weeks.

Our Readers are informed, that through inadvertency the Engraving in our last week's Number was printed the wrong way upwards.

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**Consultations.**—The Editor may be personally consulted by patients requiring his advice, at *The Doctor* Office, every Monday and Friday from 5 till 7 o'clock. There are separate waiting rooms, and the consultation fee is 2s. 6d.

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**Almanacks on Sale as usual.**

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